

PA ENVIRONMENTAL BRIEF FOR DR-4065-NH (Cheshire County, New Hampshire)

After reviewing the PDA reports and the environmental regulations that FEMA requires its applicants to comply with, there are only a few types of eligible projects where caution should be taken to avoid any violations. Most of these involve in-stream work or stream crossings.

Work in Water

Nearly all in-stream work will likely fall under a USACE *Programmatic General Permit for New Hampshire* and will not require an individual permit, but applicants must still meet the conditions of using best management practices for erosion control.

Information on the new State regulations related to stream crossings will be provided at a later date after agency and program consultation has occurred.

Endangered & Threatened Species

The Ashuelot River in New Hampshire, below the Surry Mountain flood control project (in the towns of Surry and Swanzey and in the city of Keene), has a population of federally listed endangered Dwarf Wedgemussels (DWM). Please see the map on the back of this handout for known DWM locations. Areas of concern are the Point Locations and the River Reaches.

FEMA's Environmental/Historic Preservation (EHP) staff will be required to consult with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) for work in and near the river at these sites. Please contact EHP staff as soon as possible, so consultation can take place early in the process.

Debris

During this disaster, it is assumed that the only type of debris collected and handled by the applicant consists of clean woody debris. If white goods or other types of debris are included, please make a note of this.

Please see the DEBRIS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FORM - 4065-NH for debris guidelines issued by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES). The form is located on the PA drive under Environmental/4065-NH. To insure that all policies are understood, please have the applicant fill out and sign the DEBRIS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FORM and attach it to the PW. This is a requirement for all debris PWs.

Historic Structures

Please provide the built date for all buildings, bridges, etc. If a structure is over 50-years old, please discuss the project with EHP staff as soon as possible.

Stone Structures

Please report to EHP staff any damaged stone culverts, bridges, walls, etc. that require repairs or replacement. Such structures may be historically significant. FEMA consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) may be required. If a stone structure can be repaired and left in place, consultation will take very little time.

For additional EHP information, please see the GREENSHEET located on the PA drive under Environmental/4065-NH. *Thank you* for bringing to the attention of EHP staff all environmental and historic preservation issues or concerns as soon as you are aware of them. This allows for a timely response and reduces delays.